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Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 11, '18.

BERT WILLIAMS.

The January number of the Ameri-
 can magazine, has an article by Mr.
 Bert A. Williams, the famous comedi-
 an, which not only contains much
 truth, but should be a source of much
 inspiration to many of our race who
 sometime despair because the color
 line seems to be a barrier in their
 progress that is if they can be in-
 spired by one who dreadfully fails
 to practice what he preached. Among
 the good things in Mr. Williams' ar-
 ticle he said:

"People sometimes ask me if I would
 not give anything to be white. I an-
 swer, in the words of the song, most
 emphatically, 'No!' How do I know
 what I might be if I were a white
 man? I might be a peasant boy, bur-
 rowing away and losing my health for
 \$3 a day. I might be a street car
 conductor at \$12 or \$15 a week. There
 is many a white man less fortunate
 and less well equipped than I am. In
 truth, I have never been able to dis-
 cover that there was anything dis-
 graceful in being a colored man. But
 I have often found it inconvenient—in
 America."

"How many times have hotel keep-
 ers said to me, 'I know you Williams,
 and I like you, and I would like noth-
 ing better than to have you stay here,
 but you see we have 'Southern gen-
 tlemen' in the house and they would ob-
 ject."

"Frankly, I can't understand what
 it is all about. I breathe like other
 people, eat like them—if you put me at
 a dinner table you can be reasonably
 sure that I won't use the ice cream
 fork for my salad; I think like other
 people. I guess the whole trouble
 must be that I don't look like them.
 They say it is a matter of race prej-
 udice. But if it were prejudice a baby
 could have it and you will never find
 it in a baby. It has to be inherited
 of people. For one thing I have no-
 ticed that this 'race prejudice' is not
 to be found in people who are sure
 enough of their position to be able to
 defy it. For example, the kindest
 most courteous, most democratic man
 I ever met was the King of England,
 the late King Edward VII."

Mr. Williams is in a position to do
 much for his race.

One of America's greatest actors
 and the recognized leader of theatri-
 cals of all times, as it concerns the
 race, however his attitude towards
 members of his own race means much
 more perhaps than anything he can
 ever say. For the last few years, Mr.
 Williams has enjoyed his greatest
 prosperity and has received his great-
 est recognition from the white press
 and public, but has turned down all
 his old race friends, and seeks the
 association of whites who are in every
 way inferior—when approached con-
 cerning his attitude he has said on
 numerous occasions, "I am through
 with the brother." Shameful ingrati-
 tude to those who supported and ap-
 plauded him, making his present pos-
 sition possible. A shameful contribu-
 tion to the memory of his late part-
 ner George Walker—whose noble work
 in behalf of his race will ever live.
 However we thank Mr. Williams for
 his article in the American Magazine,
 for there are some good things even
 in a changed heart.

ARMY EXECUTION FORBIDDEN

A few days ago the associated press
 carried the following:

"President Wilson has prohibited
 the execution of any more American
 soldiers—except in General Pershing's
 forces abroad—before the sentences of
 the courts-martial have been review-

ed in Washington. Heretofore this
 has not been necessary in wartime.

Thirteen Negro troopers of the
 Twenty-fourth Infantry were recently
 executed for the rioting at Houston,
 Texas, without review at Washington.
 Surely full justice was not done at
 Houston in the eyes of the administra-
 tion at Washington, and we are thank-
 ful for the foregoing order, in view of
 the fact that other members of the
 24th Infantry were on trial.

THE PARK (?)

We wish to call the attention of the
 City Park Commission, before they
 make their annual appropriations, to
 the needs of Hadley Park. The park
 has never received the attention it de-
 serves. There are no shrubs, flowers,
 walks, or anything which would tend
 to make the place inviting.

The park in the summer, is a deso-
 late place with here and there a mud
 puddle or a rank growth of sweet
 nothing to recommend it to the
 good graces of the visitor. Just an
 old waste, that's all. It is up to the
 commission to do something towards
 beautifying this plague spot and after
 they have done this they should put
 some one in charge who has a fine
 sense of dissection and discrimina-
 tion. Mr. Commissioner's do something
 for Hadley Park.

A CENTRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

It is to be hoped that the Board of
 Education will hearken to the desires
 of the Negro and give him the much
 needed grammar school somewhere
 near the center of the City. The new
 Pearl High is too far and most un-
 desirably located, many children hav-
 ing to encounter a dangerous railroad
 crossing in order to get to the school.
 It would be nothing but just and
 equitable for the board to make bet-
 ter provisions for the Negro children
 of the City.

Chattanooga and Knoxville are more
 fair to their Negro population than
 Nashville. These two Cities have
 ample facilities for school children of
 both races. The Negro will have a more
 centrally located grammar school if
 the board means to do that which is
 generous. We beg to call attention of
 the board to the fact, that Negro chil-
 dren are mostly living a long way
 from the Pearl High School Build-
 ing and need relief badly.

TRUE CHRISTIANITY.

The congregation of a Boston church
 voted to accept the recommendation of
 the pastor that church coal in the
 church bins be distributed among the
 poor. The action has probably caused
 more people to think about Chris-
 tianity, the real kind, than if the
 church had been kept open and
 thrice the usual number of prayers
 said.

THE CART BEFORE THE HORSE.

The plan of the Hearst Newspapers
 for a fund to rebuild the Cities of
 France, is both noble and philanthropic.
 Let us first complete the task
 to which we are dedicated, "Save
 France" and rebuild her Cities after-
 wards.

With the weather thirteen below
 zero, and the coal shortage acute in
 New York City, a scientist comes for-
 ward with the information that there
 is plenty of coal on the moon—some-
 body will next blame the Government
 control of the railroads if we don't get
 some of it.

We are now face to face with actual
 prohibition if national prohibition
 comes there will be nothing to bootleg
 with, and you will be able to strike
 a match on the inside of a beer vat.

"Men almost lynched in Iowa,"
 says headline. Nothing of that sort
 could happen in Dyer or Shelby Coun-
 ty Tennessee.

An enlisted man writes, that he
 doesn't mind the trenches, but he
 hates to be 3000 miles from Mrs. Gary's
 restaurant.

And, as we said last week you don't
 need so much sugar if you have a
 sweet wife.

You are three persons. You are
 what you are, what you think you
 are and what people think you are.

Well, the first robin aint due yet,
 neither is the early bloming crocus.

Remember the meatless and wheat-
 less day and keep them wholly.

The plumber is the happy guy these
 days.

JIM CROW ON THE RAILROADS.

I need not ask for your valuable
 space, to repeat the same old story
 of Negro loyalty to this government,
 or to call to mind the many deeds of
 daring on hundreds of bloody battle
 fields, in order to prove his patrio-
 tism and devotion to a great cause;
 for the Negro's record is made and
 it cannot be effaced. It is true we
 hang our heads in shame when such
 outbreaks take place as happened in
 Houston, Texas; we heartily deplore
 the Brownsville affair (although I do
 not believe such a thing could have
 been possible in Tennessee); but one
 thing is certain, the Negro race, in
 all her history in this country, has
 never produced a Benedict Arnold,
 a John Wilkes Booth or a LaFollette
 in the senate of the United States.

Why are the bridges and tunnels
 throughout this country guarded to-
 day? Does anybody suspect the Ne-
 gro? Not at all. Why are the
 munitions plants and other great

manufacturing establishments under
 federal guard? Are they afraid that
 some Negro will do some violence
 to these works, either as interested
 enemies of the government or as hired
 agents of the central powers?
 No, a thousand times no. The
 men that Uncle Sam fears, even in our
 very midst, are white men. They are
 men who have been accorded every
 right and privilege that could be al-
 lowed any living human being. No
 civil religious or social rights, has
 been for a moment denied them.

Because they were white men, and
 white means everything in this coun-
 try, they have been given the right
 of way, and now after a lapse of
 a number of years, we find ourselves
 confronted with the problem of all
 problems, a problem bigger than the
 "Negro problem." We find ourselves
 carrying a load heavier than the erst-
 while "white man's burden"—it is the
 "United States' burden." The
 Negro has quietly consented to be
 the "problem," and has striven hard
 through these years, to help solve it;
 he has without a protest, consented
 to be called the "burden," but he has
 engaged in a thousand efforts to light-
 en this burden from the white man's
 shoulders. And now again when Uncle
 Sam calls for him to lay down his life
 in the great fight to overthrow Ne-
 groocracy, he answers the call, even
 though he may be "Jim-crowed" in the
 very army and the navy, and contrib-
 utes his bit in every other way that
 the white American does, in order that
 this war may be won for freedom
 and democracy.

But in the face of this, the most
 trying time in the history of the coun-
 try, there are still to be found a few
 southern newspapers and news paper
 correspondents, who are so comple-
 tely obsessed with race prejudice that
 they lose sight of the true situation,
 in their effort to "make the Negro
 know his place."

The Nashville evening paper con-
 tained this editorial recently:

"There is no danger that Southern
 Jim Crow laws will be set aside. Ne-
 groes the world over have come under
 governmental control. Mr. McAdoo
 is a Southerner." Now, why would
 the evening paper fly into our faces
 and insult us without a cause? Had
 the race raised such a question? Why
 should the banner cry "well" so soon?
 Is the editor accustomed to seeking
 "ghosts"? To my way of thinking,
 this country, even this Southern sec-
 tion, will be able to find more to en-
 gage its attention before this struggle
 is over than the matter of "Jim-crow-
 ing" the Negro on Southern railroads.
 Mr. McAdoo, as a Southerner, may not
 be able to do everything he would like
 to do before the end comes. But we
 wish to assure Mr. McAdoo that the
 Negro will be the last one to give any
 trouble. We wish to serve notice
 on the Banner's editor that the Ne-
 gro is not looking any ahead about "Jim-
 crow" laws, and the effect the war
 conditions will have upon them.

And it would be well also for the
 Banner to possess its soul in patience.
 Strange things, yes, un-heard-of things
 sometimes happen as a result of war.
 And the Negro, though in a large
 measure, ignorant, is somewhat of a
 philosopher; he knows that there is al-
 ways revolution in things; that in
 the war, some go and some go down;
 that as a result of war, very often the
 rich are made poor, and the poor are
 made rich. The Negro has learned the
 lesson of leaving some things to
 God—the God of our Fathers, who
 holds in his own hands the destiny
 of nations. We believe that God will
 do right, and whether Mr. McAdoo is
 as Southerner or a Northerner, God is
 still living and will have somewhat to
 say concerning the affairs of men and
 nations.

J. A. JONES,
 Presiding Elder, Nashville District
 A. M. E. Church, Nashville, Tenn.

CITY ITEMS

Mr. Rufus Cage of Georgia street,
 presented a fine daughter, Mrs. Edna
 Cage Harris, of Indianapolis, Ind., a
 beautifully furnished home at 705
 Georgia street, where he welcomes
 her.

Mrs. Alice Warren of Ebenezer was
 hostess one day last week, having as
 her guests for the occasion her
 nieces, Mesdames Rosa Wilson Red
 of Chicago and Mrs. Jollie Wilson
 King, of Sevel street.

Miss Annie Gillespie of Chicago,
 Ill., who spent the holidays in the
 city visiting relatives and friends,
 left last Saturday night. While here
 she was very highly entertained.

In memoriam of Herschel E. Lee,
 beloved son of Mrs. Elsie Taylor, who
 departed this life Jan. 7th 1917.
 Gone though not forgotten.

Little Bessie Howse of Mt. Pleasant,
 Tenn., was here visiting her sis-
 ter, Janet Hughes, and mother, Mrs.
 Sarah Hughes, last week. She en-
 joyed herself mingling with her little
 friends.

Miss Theresa B. Harten, student of
 State Normal who has been teaching,
 will now enter school and specialize
 in Commercial Course and Music.

Miss Edith Marie Harris, little
 daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Harris,
 is improving very much from serious
 illness.

Mr. John Ridley of Company L in
 Camp Meade is doing fine and sends
 love to every one of his friends.

Mrs. Frank Cheatham of 32 Maple
 street, Pontiac, Mich. is now in the
 city visiting her mother, Mrs. Josephine
 Neeley, of 500 Forty-third ave-
 nue, West Nashville, Tenn.

Mrs. Shaw Brooks and little son
 have returned home after spending
 the Christmas with her husband's re-
 latives at Martin, Tenn., and Mayfield.
 She reports a very pleasant trip.

The St. John Baptist Metoka Class
 held their election Friday night, Jan-
 uary 4, 1918, at the St. John Baptist
 Church. Mr. Columbus Reel, Sec-
 retary; Bro. Thomas Parker, Vice
 President; Mr. Pearl Jarman, Sec-
 retary; Bro. Matt Demoss, Treasurer.

"MADE IN NASHVILLE"
START RIGHT
 RESIST THAT YOU WILL IN 1918
 MAKE YOUR HEAD A PRESENT
 OF THE VERY BEST TREATMENT.
 IT DESERVES IT. YOU CAN HAVE
 IT DO WHAT IT'S WORTH.

Quino
 616 East Street
 Nashville, Tennessee

largely represented, and we were
 made to feel uplifted in hearing the
 encouraging reports brought in by
 the president. Quite a busy after-
 noon was spent in hearing the reports
 of the past year and adjusting the
 work for the new year. After all
 business was completed, the follow-
 ing officers were elected:

Mrs. H. M. Burns, President; Mrs.
 M. L. Johnson, First Vice President;
 Mrs. H. A. Alfred, Second Vice Pres-
 ident; Mrs. J. B. Batson, Recording
 Secretary; A. V. Marshall, Corres-
 ponding Secretary; E. Wilder, Chair-
 man of Executive Board; A. H. Clark,
 City Missionary; Mrs. Merritt, Asst.
 Miss; E. Sanders, Ch. of Program
 Committee; J. L. Harding, Ch. of
 Literary Com. We were glad to have
 with us Rev. J. L. Harding, Presi-
 dent of the State Convention, who al-
 ways brings us words of cheer and
 timely advice. Also Rev. H. M. Burns,
 Secretary of the State Convention,
 who is ever willing to confer with us
 towards the betterment of our Union.
 Mrs. D. D. Ferguson, our State Presi-
 dent, gladdened us with her presence
 and encouraging remarks. A splen-
 did program was rendered at the
 evening service followed by a strong
 sermon delivered by Rev. H. M.
 Burns, text Rom. 16:1-2. Program:
 Recitations by Mrs. Saunders, Ella
 Walker, Misses Alberta Rucker and
 Martha Grover, Solos by Mrs. W. S.
 Amos and Mrs. J. B. Batson. Mis-
 sionary Recital by the Junior Circle
 from Tabernacle Baptist Church. The
 ladies of Mt. Bethel Church en-
 tertained the ladies of the City Union
 with a sumptuously served repast,
 which was thoroughly enjoyed.

Sunday, January 13, 1918, the
 newly elected officers of the City
 Union will be installed at the Taber-
 nacle Baptist Church. Rev. H. M.
 Burns, pastor, Rev. J. L. Harding
 will preach the installation sermon.
 Dr. C. H. Clark will install the of-
 ficers. Mrs. Fannie Saunders will be
 the Mistress of Ceremonies. All are
 cordially invited to come. Program
 will begin promptly at 3:00 p. m.
 Mrs. H. M. Burns, Pres.
 Mrs. A. V. Marshall, Cor. Sec.

FREMONT, OHIO.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Caldwell en-
 tertained his brothers and their
 wives at dinner. The table and din-
 ing room was beautifully decorated
 and a toothsome menu was served.
 The guests were Mr. and Mrs. Carter
 Caldwell, Mr. and Mrs. Richard
 Caldwell, Mr. and Mrs. William
 Conner of Nashville, and Mr. Pully
 and brother of this city. Phonograph
 music was enjoyed throughout the
 evening. Mr. Bud Brand stuck a
 nail in his foot and it has caused him
 much suffering. We wish for him a
 speedy recovery.

IN MEMORIAM.

In sad and loving memory of dear,
 beloved and devoted mother, Mrs.
 Elizabeth McKay, who passed away
 one year ago, November 12, 1916.

A loved one from us has gone.
 Her voice we loved is still.
 Her place which is vacant in our
 home
 Never can be filled.

God in his wisdom has recalled,
 His love his boon has given,
 And though her body moulds,
 Her soul is safe in heaven.

Miss Lizzie N. Kelley,
 1015 9th Ave., N. Nashville, Tenn.
 Mr. and Mrs. Luther C. Robinson,
 911 W. State St., Springfield, Ohio.

Pres. Buchanan's Address to
the Civic League a Gem

(Continued from page 1.)

his nationality, he was met with the
 remark, "Professor, I won't do a
 blame thing to beat Germany." Who
 knows but what our present failure
 to win our army in France and our
 training camps at home properly sup-
 plied with artillery, ammunition, guns,
 clothes, etc., is not due to the pres-
 ence of men somewhere who "won't
 do a blame thing to beat Germany?"
 And yet Negroes are not wanted
 in the navy. I have heard it said
 that some of the best gunners in our
 navy today are men of foreign birth
 or parentage, and that because of
 this fact there is some misgiving as
 to the direction in which the guns
 would be aimed in case of a naval
 engagement with Germany. But is
 the same guns were manned by
 American Negroes there would be ab-
 solutely no question as to the direc-
 tion in which they would be pointed?
 We hope that after the war there
 will be not only Negro cooks and wait-
 ers aboard our fighting ships, but Ne-
 gro mates and gunners too?

Surely a race which is willing to
 fight for its country should be given
 every opportunity to work for its
 country.

Aim Number Two. In the second
 place the Negro hopes that the black
 war orphans of Alabama will have
 better educational facilities than their
 fathers had. I am told that fully 40
 per cent of the black drafted men at
 Camp Dodge can neither read nor
 write. This is certainly no wonder
 when we examine the very inadequate
 public school system which has af-
 forded their only chance for learning.
 As I watched hundreds of these un-
 lettered plowmen trudge forth to
 camp, I could not help thinking how
 utterly impossible it is for this coun-
 try to reach its highest possibilities
 with one-half slave and the other
 free; one-half up and the other down;
 one-half educated and the other ig-
 norant. Education is the bulwark
 of liberty and ignorance is its sure
 destruction. Russia shows that, and
 unless a more honest effort is made
 to educate the Negro this country will
 surely find it out.

There are only four public high
 schools for Negroes in the whole
 state of Alabama, and there is no
 serious public effort anywhere to
 maintain a college for them. Out of

the public tax the state should dupli-
 cate for the Negro as far as is nec-
 essary every institution which is
 maintained for the white man. Lo-
 cal taxation measures and compulsory
 school attendance laws which do not
 apply their benefits to both races
 alike are poor makeshifts in a coun-
 try which champions world democ-
 racy.

Had Belgium spent half of the
 time improving the natives of her
 African colonies that she spent in ter-
 rorizing them, they would have pro-
 ven far more helpful to her in her
 present trouble. Had the common
 people of Russia been as well edu-
 cated as the common people of Ger-
 many, there would have been no war.
 Ignorance is a curse to any people,
 and it is short-sighted statescraft that
 does not work genuinely to banish
 it wherever it is found.

Aim number three. In the third
 place the Negro is fighting for a
 chance to live. At present he is
 more subject to disease and death
 than the white man because he lives
 in more unsanitary surroundings. The
 Negro dies faster than the white man
 because he lives so much harder.
 And often when we means and in-
 telligence prompt us to move out
 from amidst the filth and pollution,
 our efforts are misunderstood. Now
 we like to live together, but we have
 found that when we settle ourselves
 in darktown—no matter how nice
 the homes we build, nor heavy the
 taxes we pay—the sewer lines, the
 water works, the electric lights, and
 the paved streets too often stop
 short at the very lot where our homes
 begin. And it takes long hard beg-
 ging to coax them further. Our



DR. WALTERS BUCHANAN,
 President State A and M College, Normal, Ala.

white friends may yet learn that the
 best way to segregate us is to make
 the section of the city in which we
 live as clean and healthful as the
 rest of the city, for no one of us
 cares to live next door to a white
 man, but we are all anxious to live
 next door to sewer lines, trash carts,
 water mains, side walks and electric
 lights.

Aim number four. And lastly the
 Negro hopes that his patriotism in
 this war will bring him back the bal-
 lot. Our government grew out of the
 idea that taxation without representa-
 tion is tyranny. And we know it is!

In the words of Kelly Miller:
 "The Negro feels that he is not re-
 garded as a constituent part of the
 American democracy. This is our
 fundamental grievance and lies at
 the basis of all the outrages inflicted
 upon this helpless race. It is the fun-
 damental creed of democracy that no
 people are good enough to govern
 any other people without their con-
 sent and participation. The English
 are not good enough to govern the
 Irish. The Russians are not good
 enough to govern the Finns. The
 Germans are not good enough to gov-
 ern the Belgians. The Belgians are
 not good enough to govern the peo-
 ple of the Congo. Men are not con-
 sidered good enough to govern wom-
 en. The white people of this coun-
 try are not good enough to govern
 the Negro. As long as the black man
 is excluded from participation in the
 government of the nation, just so
 long will he be the victim of cruelty
 and outrage on the part of his white
 fellow citizens who assume lordship
 over him."

In a recent state paper it is intimated
 that the war will continue un-
 till the German people can have a
 voice in the terms of peace. But the
 Negro will go this one better and
 hope that the world war will continue
 until every black man in the Union has
 a voice in declaring war!—And espe-
 cially when black men are to be
 forced to go five thousand miles
 across the sea to fight the battles!

But we are in the fight gladly be-
 cause we love our country and have
 faith in our countrymen. Therefore
 we have willingly—cheerfully—hope-
 fully sent our sons to the army and
 our daughters to the fields.

And our money is just as patriotic
 as ourselves, as witness our Red
 Cross buttons and our Liberty bonds.
 When the war is over, a Negro should
 be just as welcome to scratch an
 Australian ballot as to buy a Liberty
 bond.

One hundred thousand black men
 are already fighting in France and
 we have nearly as many more getting
 ready to go "over there." And we
 do not pray that they will all re-
 turn, for we want our blood to enrich
 the fields of France along with that
 of other liberty-loving people as a
 heritage to our children in the his-
 tory of world freedom. We shall re-
 joice to do our best believing that the



THE OPEN DOOR

TO EASY STREET

is through the savings bank. No
 other road leads to it. What you
 save is what your savings earn
 for you here make for content
 and independence. If you com-
 mence at once the sooner you'll
 arrive on Easy street with all that
 that implies.

ONE CENT SAVINGS BANK,
NASHVILLE, TENN.

best will come back to us, and hop-
 ing that for every black man who
 gives up his life on the western front,
 some black boy in Alabama will have
 life more abundantly.

So we are all going "over the top
 somewhere." In France—English,
 Africans, Russians, Americans, Asi-
 atics—some for one group aim and
 some for another, but all united
 against a common foe and in support
 of a common ideal; and none who
 fights will be the weaker because he
 has an aim peculiar to his own little
 group.

Our aim is to win by fighting with
 our government what most people
 win by fighting against their govern-
 ment—namely, all the benefits that
 a democracy vouch